ÖLAND SWEDEN

ÖLAND

Borgholms kommun
Mörbylånga kommun
Köpingsvik
Borgholm stad
Gårdslösa
Torslunda
Mörbylånga
Ottenby

ÖLAND

Öland - Sweden

Is the second largest Swedish island and the smallest of the traditional provinces of Sweden. Öland has an area of 1,342 square kilometres (518 square miles) and is located in the Baltic Sea just off the coast of Småland. The island has 26,000 inhabitants. It is separated from the mainland by the Kalmar Strait and connected to it by the 6-kilometre (3.7 mi) Öland Bridge, which opened on 30 September 1972.

Archaeological evidence indicates the island of Öland was settled about 8000 BC, with excavations dating from the Paleolithic era showing the presence of hunter-gatherers. In the early Stone Age, settlers from the mainland migrated across the ice bridge that connected the island across the Kalmar Strait.

Environment

Stora Alvaret on southeast of Öland with Eketorp Fortress in background
The dominant environmental feature of the island is the Stora Alvaret, a limestone pavement which is the habitat of numerous rare and endangered species. The first known scientific study of the biota of the Stora Alvaret occurred in the year 1741 with the visit of Linnaeus. The underlying bedrock layer is mainly Cambrian sandstone and alum chert, and Ordovician limestone that dates from an approximate range of 540 to 450 million years ago. The Cambrian trilobite Eccaparadoxides oelandicus is named after the island

Stora Alvaret on southeast of Öland with Eketorp Fortress in background

The Borgholm Castle was built between 1669 and 1681 for Queen Hedvig Eleonora, and designed by Nicodemus Tessin the Elder. In its vicinity sits the Solliden Palace, summer home to the royal family.

The limestone pavement habitat of southern Öland, known as Stora Alvaret, has been entered as a site of the UNESCO World Heritage program. Features of this are the many rare species found; prehistory sites such as Gettlinge and Eketorp; numerous old wooden windmills left standing, some of which date to the 17th century; and the special geological alvar landscape.

For a decade, Öland has been organizing an annual harvest festival called Skördefesten that takes place every October. In terms of this event, the island's farmers gather with farmers from the rest of the country and sell their crops and let those that are interested take part in everyday life on their farms, among other activities. There are also many art exhibitions for display during Skördefesten especially during the art night Konstnatten.

Borgholm

Skördefest

Skördefest is an annual harvest festival on Öland, held every September, which attracts thousands of visitors. Pumpkins are placed upon the top of bales of hay, a signal to buyers that fall harvest goods are available for sale at the location. In Borgholm, a pumpagubbe (pumpkin man), a large scarecrow like figure, built entirely of gourds, is erected at town center. The pumpagubbe celebrates the bounty of the Fall Harvest.

Hulterstad is a small coastal town on the southeastern part of the island of Öland, Sweden. Hulterstad is situated at the eastern fringe of the Stora Alvaret, a limestone pavement habitat which hosts a diversity of rare plants and has been designated a World Heritage Site by UNESCO.

Böda
Högby
Ölands-Åkerbo
Källa
Borgholm kommun
Persnäs
Föra
Köpingsvik
Alböke
Löt
Borgholm stad
Borgholm
Köping
Egby
Bredsätra
Räpplinge
Gärdslösa
Gärdslösa
Högsrum
Långlöt
Glömminge
Runsten
Algutsrum
Norra Möckleby
Torslunda
Gårdby
Torslunda
Vickleby
Sandby
Resmo
Stenåsa
Mörbylånga
Kastlösa
Hulterstad
Mörbylånga
Mörbylånga kommun
Smedby
Södra Möckleby
Segerstad
Ottenby
Gräsgård
Ventlinge
Ås

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Långe Jan

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Öland Bridge

is a road bridge connecting Kalmar on mainland Sweden to Färjestaden on the island of Öland to its east. At 6,072 meters (19,921 ft) long, it is one of the longest in all of Europe

Solliden

Solliden Palace -- commonly known as just Solliden -- is the summer residence of the Swedish Royal Family and the personal private property of King Carl XVI Gustaf. The palace is situated near the Borgholm Castle ruin on the island of Öland in southern Sweden along its Baltic coast. The Royal Family uses the palace for celebrating Victoriadagen.

Victoria Day (Swedish: Victoriadagen) is an annual celebration in Sweden to celebrate Crown Princess Victoria's birthday.
It is celebrated annually on the princess's birthday, 14 July; for milestone birthdays the celebrations may be held over multiple days. This birthday tradition started in 1979, with Crown Princess Victoria's 2nd birthday.

The Victoria Day celebrations usually take place on the island of Öland, where the Swedish Royal family spends their summer holiday. The day often begins at Solliden Palace, where the Crown Princess Family, King & Queen greet waiting crowds.